



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AF/B726
Edna B. H.
H. 08/1/03

In re:

U.S. Application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and Yasushi
WATANABE

For:

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING HOLLOW
RACK SHAFT

Confirmation No.:

7306

U.S. Serial No.:

09/803,560

Filed:

March 9, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3726

Examiner:

Percy W. Echols

RECEIVED
JUL 31 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in
an envelope addressed to: **MAIL STOP AF**, Commissioner
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

July 22, 2003

Date of Deposit

Brian E. Harris

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

B. E. Harris

Signature

July 22, 2003

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 22, 2003, which provides for a
response period ending July 22, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: